

States and in its behalf any and all deeds or other instruments necessary to effect such sale.

Deposit of proceeds

SEC. 2. That all moneys received as the proceeds of such sale, after deducting the necessary expenses connected therewith, shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of miscellaneous receipts.

Approved, March 3, 1925

March 3, 1925.
[H. R. 9535.]
[Public, No. 546.]

CHAP. 428.—An Act Authorizing suits against the United States in admiralty for damage caused by and salvage services rendered to public vessels belonging to the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a libel in personam in admiralty may be brought against the United States, or a petition impleading the United States, for damages caused by a public vessel of the United States, and for compensation for towage and salvage services, including contract salvage, rendered to a public vessel of the United States: *Provided*, That the cause of action arose after the 6th day of April, 1920.

SEC. 2. That such suit shall be brought in the district court of the United States for the district in which the vessel or cargo charged with creating the liability is found within the United States, or if such vessel or cargo be outside the territorial waters of the United States, then in the district court of the United States for the district in which the parties so suing, or any of them, reside or have an office for the transaction of business in the United States; or in case none of such parties reside or have an office for the transaction of business in the United States, and such vessel or cargo be outside the territorial waters of the United States, then in any district court of the United States. Such suits shall be subject to and proceed in accordance with the provisions of an Act entitled "An Act authorizing suits against the United States in admiralty, suits for salvage services, and providing for the release of merchant vessels belonging to the United States from arrest and attachment in foreign jurisdictions, and for other purposes," approved March 9, 1920, or any amendment thereof, in so far as the same are not inconsistent herewith, except that no interest shall be allowed on any claim up to the time of the rendition of judgment unless upon a contract expressly stipulating for the payment of interest.

SEC. 3. That in the event of the United States filing a libel in rem or in personam in admiralty for damages caused by a privately owned vessel, the owner of such vessel, or his successors in interest, may file a cross libel in personam or claim a set-off or counterclaim against the United States in such suit for and on account of any damages arising out of the same subject matter or cause of action: *Provided*, That whenever a cross libel is filed for any cause of action for which the original libel is filed by authority of this Act, the respondent in the cross libel shall give security in the usual amount and form to respond to the claim set forth in said cross libel unless the court, for cause shown, shall otherwise direct; and all proceedings on the original libel shall be stayed until such security shall be given.

SEC. 4. That no officer or member of the crew of any public vessel of the United States may be subpœnaed in connection with any suit authorized under this Act without the consent of the secretary of the department or the head of any independent establishment of the Government having control of the vessel at the time the

Admiralty causes.
Libel in personam
against United States
authorized for damages
by a public vessel.

Proviso.
Time limitation.

Venue of action.

Procedure.
Vol. 41, p. 526.

Interest restriction.

Admission of cross
bill by vessel owner,
in actions by United
States

Proviso.
Security required of
respondent.

Restriction on sub-
pœna to personnel of
any public vessel.

cause of action arose, or of the master or commanding officer of such vessel at the time of the issuance of such subpoena.

SEC. 5. That no suit may be brought under this Act by a national of any foreign government unless it shall appear to the satisfaction of the court in which suit is brought that said government, under similar circumstances, allows nationals of the United States to sue in its courts.

Suits by foreign nationals not allowed unless similar rights allowed American nationals.

SEC. 6. That the Attorney General of the United States is hereby authorized to arbitrate, compromise, or settle any claim on which a libel or cross libel would lie under the provisions of this Act, and for which a libel or cross libel has actually been filed.

Arbitration, etc., by Attorney General authorized.

SEC. 7. That any final judgment rendered on any libel or cross libel herein authorized, and any settlement had and agreed to under the provisions of section 6 of this Act, shall, upon presentation of a duly authenticated copy thereof, be paid by the proper accounting officer of the United States out of any moneys in the Treasury of the United States appropriated therefor by Congress.

Payment of judgment or settlement.

SEC. 8. Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to recognize the existence of or as creating a lien against any public vessel of the United States.

No lien created against public vessels.

SEC. 9. The United States shall be entitled to the benefits of all exemptions and of all limitations of liability accorded by law to the owners, charterers, operators or agents of vessels.

Exemptions, etc.,

SEC. 10. That the Attorney General of the United States shall report to the Congress at each session thereof all suits in which final judgment shall have been rendered and all claims which shall have been settled under this Act.

Report to Congress of all suits, etc.

Approved, March 3, 1925.

CHAP. 429.—An Act To provide for restoration of the Old Fort Vancouver Stockade.

March 3, 1925.

[H. R. 10472.]

[Public, No. 547.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War is authorized to permit and cooperate in the restoration or rebuilding, in a manner historically accurate as to dimension and architecture, the building known as the Old Fort Vancouver Stockade. Such restoration or rebuilding shall be in close proximity to the site of the stockade structure originally built by the Hudson's Bay Company within the present limits of the United States Military Reservation at Vancouver Barracks in the State of Washington, and shall be completed on or before July 1, 1925.

Old Fort Vancouver Stockade, Wash. Restoration, etc., of, authorized.

Location.

Approved, March 3, 1925.

CHAP. 430.—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of War to convey by revocable lease to the city of Springfield, Massachusetts, a certain parcel of land within the Springfield Military Armory Reservation, Massachusetts.

March 3, 1925.

[H. R. 11355.]

[Public, No. 548.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to convey by a proper revocable lease to the city of Springfield, Massachusetts, for public highway purposes, and for no other purpose, a strip of land within the Springfield Military Armory Reservation, Massachusetts, fifty-five feet wide lying southerly of and adjacent to the southerly line of Pearl Street as established by a deed of the Secretary of War bearing date December 1, 1922, and extending easterly from Byers Street to Federal Street as shown on four sheets

Springfield, Mass. Lease of portion of Armory reservation to, for highway purposes.